

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 32

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Vatican should recognize the State of Israel and should establish diplomatic relations with that country.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 1993

Mr. ENGEL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Vatican should recognize the State of Israel and should establish diplomatic relations with that country.

Whereas 117 governments of every political form maintain full and formal diplomatic relations with the State of Israel;

Whereas the Vatican and the State of Israel have maintained formal channels of communication;

Whereas the Vatican and the State of Israel participate in ongoing consultations and informal diplomatic exchanges;

Whereas the end of the Cold War facilitated the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and the nations of Eastern Europe and between Israel and the former Soviet Union;

Whereas the 5 permanent members of the United Nations Security Council all now maintain full diplomatic relations with Israel;

Whereas the “Nostra Aetate” calls for Catholic-Jewish dialogue and understanding;

Whereas the National Conference on Catholic Bishops’ statement, entitled “The Pursuit of Peace with Justice,” supports the “rights of Israel to existence as a sovereign state with secure and recognized boundaries”;

Whereas the National Christian Leadership Conference has urged Pope John Paul II to formally recognize the State of Israel;

Whereas the Vatican has demonstrated constructive support for the Egypt-Israel peace treaty; and

Whereas the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the Vatican and the State of Israel would be a positive step toward peace and stability in the Middle East and would promote increased harmony between Christians and Jews throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the
 3 Vatican should grant official recognition to the State of
 4 Israel and should establish diplomatic relations with that
 5 country.

6 SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives
 7 shall transmit copies of this resolution to the President
 8 with a request that the President transmit those copies
 9 to the Vatican and to the Government of Israel.

